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Proposed purchase of new BOE building site moves to Senate



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A proposal to [replace the troubled headquarters](#) of the **California Board of Equalization** with a new building somewhere in the capital region unanimously cleared the state Assembly on Thursday.

The **state of California** already has spent \$60 million in repairs on the lemon at 450 N St., and could spend up to \$159 million over the next few years, according to revised numbers from Assemblyman [Roger Dickinson](#), author of [Assembly Bill 1656](#).

The new building would likely be in the Sacramento area and be big enough to house about 3,000 state employees. Some estimates have placed the needed space at one million square feet, though Dickinson said those estimates may be inflated. It's still unclear whether the building would be a high rise or in a more linear configuration, though it likely would have higher end energy efficiency upgrades as is common in modern government buildings.

California still owes \$77 million on the current BOE headquarters, but local developers have taken an interest in purchasing 450 N St. and rebuilding it -- though all ideas at this point are still subject to negotiation, the Sacramento Democrat in an interview.

"This would definitely be good for jobs in our community," Dickinson said.

Assembly Bill 1656 would authorize the state to move forward with a site selection for the new headquarters, but the appropriation would need to be revisited by the Legislature and would not be made until the 2015-16 or 2016-17 fiscal year, Dickinson said.

Allen Young covers state legislation, regulation and contracts, as well as economic news, international trade and economic development for the Sacramento Business Journal.